

Inventors: Lucas et al.  
Serial Number 09/816148

PATENT APPLICATION  
Navy Case No. 79597

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

#### Claim objections under 35 U.S.C. Section 112

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-35 under the second paragraph of section 112. The applicant has rewritten the claims as new claims 36—53. Thus this ground of rejection is now obviated.

#### Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-35 as being anticipated by the applicant's own publication under Section 102(a). This section is not applicable because it requires that the invention to have been known by others, i.e. not the applicants. The applicants are permitted to publish one year prior to the application of their invention under the Paris Convention Article 4, see MPEP Appendix P.

The inventorship of the paper is identical to the inventorship of this patent application as set forth in the attached declaration by the inventors. A.I. Kaznoff is not an inventor as set forth in the declaration.

Thus this ground of rejection has been obviated.

#### Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

With regard to claim 8, the Examiner has rejected this claim in view of the prior art

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Kenda. This claim has now been cancelled. The Kenda reference does not supply protective current in conjunction with the structure's cathodic protection galvanic anode system.

With regard to claim 14, the Examiner has rejected this claim in view of the prior art Gurusamy. This claim has now been cancelled. The Gurusamy reference supplies current to look at differences in polarization behavior, but the claimed invention measures the natural electro chemical behavior of the tank without inducing a current.

Thus this ground of rejection has now been obviated.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

With regard to claim 28 and 29, the Examiner has rejected these claims as obvious in view of Gurusamy which teaches that both the polarization and current indicate the amount of corrosion. In contradistinction, the claimed invention measures the coating degradation and corrosion protection of a tank. These claims have now been cancelled.

With regard to claim 13, the Examiner has rejected this claim as obvious in view of Kenda in view of Sabins. The zinc feature has now been deleted from the claims entirely.

With regard to claims 2, 1, 28, 29, and 31, the Examiner has rejected all of these claims as being obvious in view of Gurusamy and bases the rejection on the prior art showing of using polarization and current to indicate the amount of corrosion. The claims which are the subject of this ground of rejection have now been cancelled and the newly submitted claims now set forth

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that the applicant's invention is unlike Gurusamy in that measures the natural electro chemical behavior of the tank without inducing a current. The newly claimed invention is directed to measuring coatings degradation as well as corrosion susceptibility.

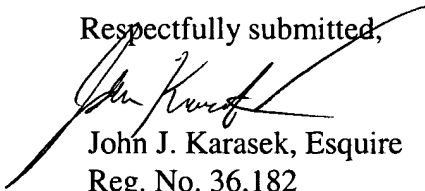
Thus Gurusamy is not seen to render the newly submitted claims obvious and thus this ground of rejection is now obviated.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks in response to the Examiner's office action, the applicant now submits that the newly submitted claims are in a condition for allowance. The examiner is asked to pass this case to issue as soon as practicable. If there remains any outstanding issue or matter which can be resolved by telephone interview, the examiner is asked to call the applicant's attorney John Gladstone Mills at 202-404-1553.

Kindly charge any additional fees due or credit overpayment of fees to Deposit Account Number 50-0281.

Respectfully submitted,



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